

What is claimed is:

1. A bassinet, comprising:

2 a frame having a top member with first and second legs
and first and second rims pivotally attached thereto, the frame being foldable
4 from an erected position wherein the rims are parallel to the top member, to a
folded position wherein the rims are non-parallel to the top member;

6 a floor supported below the rims, the floor including first
and second halves connected by a hinge, the first and second halves being
8 foldable downwardly about the hinge, the hinge preventing folding of the first
and second halves upwardly about the hinge; and

10 a flexible sidewall connecting the first and second floor
halves to the first and second rims, respectively, the first and second rims and
12 flexible sidewall preventing the first and second halves from folding
downwardly about the hinge when the frame is in the erected position.

2. The bassinet of claim 1 wherein no supporting structure
2 is provided directly beneath the floor.

3. The bassinet of claim 1 wherein the hinge is suspended
2 without supporting structure directly beneath the hinge.

2 4. The bassinet of claim 1 further including a first tension bar extending between the first rim and first leg, and a second tension bar extending between the second rim and the second leg.

2 5. The bassinet of claim 4 wherein the first and second tension bars include over-center locks.

2 6. The bassinet of claim 5 wherein the tension created in the frame by the first and second tension bars is transferred through the flexible sidewall to the floor to maintain the floor in a horizontal position when
4 the frame is in the erected position.

2 7. The bassinet of claim 6 wherein the flexible side wall is made of a mesh material.

2 8. The bassinet of claim 1 wherein the hinge includes first and second leaves connected at a pivot, the first and second leaves each being substantially L-shaped in cross section and including a corner, the pivot
4 being provided at the corner of each leaf.

2 9. The bassinet of claim 1 wherein the first and second legs and first and second rims are foldable into a parallel configuration when the frame is in the folded position.

2 10. The bassinet of claim 1 further including a storage basket
suspended between the legs below the floor.

2 11. The bassinet of claim 1 further including a removable
protective shield coupled to first rim and the second rim.

12. A bassinet, comprising:

a frame; and

a foldable floor supported by the frame and connected by

a center hinge;

wherein the center hinge is suspended without any

structure directly therebelow.

13. The bassinet of claim 12 wherein the frame is foldable

from a deployed position to a space-saving stowed position.

14. The bassinet of claim 11 wherein the frame includes a

top member to which first and second U-shaped legs and first and second

U-shaped rims are pivotally connected.

15. The bassinet of claim 14 wherein the frame is lockable in

the deployed position by a first tension bar extending between the first leg

and first rim and a second tension bar between the second leg and the

second rim.

16. The bassinet of claim 15 wherein the first and second

tension bars each include first and second legs pivotally attached to a locking

clip, the locking clip having a base and first and second opposed sides, the

first and second legs being pivotally attached to the first and second sides,

the base preventing rotation of the first and second legs in one direction.

2 17. The bassinet of claim 12 wherein the center hinge is adapted to pivot in only a single direction.

2 18. The bassinet of claim 17 wherein the center hinge includes first and second leaves connected by a pivot, the first and second leaves each including an inner edge, the inner edges being adjacent one another when the foldable floor is horizontal, the pivot being provided on one side of the hinge proximate the inner edges.

2 19. The bassinet of claim 12 further including flexible sides connecting the foldable floor to the frame.

2 20. The bassinet of claim 19 wherein tension generated by the first and second tension bars is transferred through the frame and flexible sides to lock the floor in a horizontal configuration in cooperation with the center hinge.

21. A bassinet, comprising:

2 a top member;

4 first and second legs pivotally attached to the top member;

6 first and second rims pivotally attached to the top member;

8 first and second tension bars connecting the first leg to the first rim and the second leg to the second rim, respectively;

10 a flexible wall extending downwardly from the first and second rims;

12 a foldable floor supported in a substantially horizontal plane by the flexible wall below the first and second rims to define a crib space with the flexible wall; and

14 a hinge connecting first and second halves of the foldable floor, the hinge preventing upward folding of the floor, the tension bars, rims and flexible wall preventing inadvertent downward folding of the floor.

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22. The bassinet of claim 21 wherein the bassinet is foldable from a deployed position to a stowed position, the hinge and tension bars locking the bassinet into the stowed position.